

CAPE GIRARDEAU TRIBUNE

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Prof. Usher of Washington University says George Washington died regretting that he had fought for America's independence. Undoubtedly the professor knows.

Six hundred and forty million dollars were appropriated by Congress eighteen months ago to build American aeroplanes. The last report was that two thirds of the money was spent and we didn't have a dozen machines in France.

The Government is shipping almost a carload of paper a week to each country ed for urging him to conserve on print paper. If the government had cut out the stuff it has been flooding newspaper offices with since the beginning of the war, it would have saved enough paper to publish all of the daily newspapers in the United States for ten years.

MR. HEARST ONLY TEASED.

Now that the war is over, the Senate is exposing a number of wealthy and influential Americans who are said to have been active in spreading German propaganda.

Among these personages is William Randolph Hearst, the wealthiest newspaper publisher in the United States. The State Department now makes public documents written by Mr. Hearst, accusing the President of giving away the rights of the United States, and charging the Attorney General of the United States with being a British spy.

Many Americans have been arrested and indicted for saying much less than Mr. Hearst is accused of having said. But being a man of mighty influence, Mr. Hearst was spared until the war was over and now is only being teased.

Today is Friday, the 13th. Don't let a black cat cross your path.

Now that the war is over it is interesting to note that Harry Thaw will again be placed on trial.

LET THE WOMEN VOTE.

Whether the movement to win equal rights for women in Missouri is successful or not at the present time, suffrage will eventually be given to women and it should be.

Providence is the only argument against women voting. Tradition has ruled that the place for the woman is in her home. If all women could at all times remain at home, it would do no harm to keep them from political arguments, but that is not the case.

The percentage of women workers, in factories, in offices and at menial labor is enormous. They do virtually everything that man does or can do, and they have no voice in our government.

Women who must work for their living are entitled to vote, if they want to vote. There are many women who are opposed to equal rights because they believe the word politics is not a woman's duty. But wherever women have been permitted to vote, they have displayed good judgment and evidence no desire to mangle out of their realm.

Let the women vote. If all of them don't want this privilege, let those who do exercise it.

THE PRESIDENT.

Now that the war is over some of the conditions in the United States which the war created or other passing away automatically or are threatened with speedy removal. This newspaper pointed out, when the United States entered the conflict, that the government of the Republic would, for the time being, become practically a dictatorship, more power being delegated to the President during the continuance of hostilities than had in modern times been granted to the rulers of most monarchies.

The United States is a Government to which the voice of the public rules. If the public in an emergency expresses its willingness temporarily to suspend ordinary processes its right to do so cannot be questioned even though the move is not, as it has involved since April 1917, many departures from strict constitutional methods and common usages. By tacit and general consent of the people it was agreed that the President, in the conduct of the war, should be given full power to act. In this Congress, whether it liked it or not, and there was no serious dissent in that quarter, had to acquiesce. Thus, in a sense, the Republic became for the duration of the war virtually an autocracy. What the President said became law.

He sought certain authority beyond that which he was constitutionally entitled; the public backed his demand; Congress granted it. He was enabled to do so on his own motion that which, in the ordinary course of procedure, would require the sanction of Congress and a favorable opinion from the Supreme Court. The great end in view was the winning of the war and the public having implicit confidence in the Executive, permitted him to go about the winning of it in his own way. His way proved successful, so far as the part of the United States in the conflict was concerned.

In granting their President plenary power in the conduct of the Nation through one of the most critical periods of its history the people surrendered not an iota of the power belonging to themselves. They reserved the right to withdraw from him all the authority that had been conferred at the turn of a hand or the quiver of an eyelash, should he fail in the performance of his duty; vexatious was the real autocrat; Woodrow Wilson simply its instrument.

This war is over, but certain questions growing out of its triumphant conclusion remain to be settled. It may be said to be the universal belief in the United States that President Wilson should not be limited, either in the influence or in the authority which he shall take with him to the peace conference. What the so-called "revolving" Senators are demanding more particularly is that the legislative branch of the Government shall reclaim and maintain its coordinate power with the executive in carrying on the work of reconstruction.

In this position the people, when the proper time arrives, will be found. Their side and there is not the shadow of a reason to suppose that the President will be found in opposition. When the peace of the world is established, as it will be very soon, on a foundation of common justice, the Government of the United States will slip back into its normal groove without the slightest friction. Therefore, or until some other exceptional emergency calls for extraordinary procedure, Congress as the constitution prescribes, will make the laws and the President will execute them, as usual. No democratic institution has been undermined, impaired, or even threatened by recent departures from the letter of the constitution; the constitution and the country are alike safe so long as they are made to serve the purpose of the people.

Common sense, common prudence, and ordinary judgment should, one would think, impel those entrusted with public responsibility to take a broader than partisan view of the work that lies before the President at this juncture. The Nation stood behind him in the making of war; it should stand behind him in the making of peace.

British Sea Supremacy

(By L. R. Johnson)

President Wilson's unfortunate selection of the question of the freedom of the seas as one of his fourteen points has proven ammunition of the most effective sort to the always agile and busy-propagandist who never loses an opportunity to sow seeds of dissension between Americans and their kinsmen beyond seas. An issue has been raised, the continued supremacy of the British fleet, that is entirely gratuitous as well as entirely mischievous. Why such an issue and who has made it? For centuries the British fleet has been kept maintained as the strongest in the world and what nation except Germany has slept the uneasier for that. Why question it now? It has stood as an eternal interdict of dictatorship of Europe and the world. It has stood as the never-sleeping protector of the home of liberalism and representative government against autocratic ambitions. Since the United States has been a nation British supremacy on the seas has been acquiesced in without thought of protest or rivalry. Then why this sudden burst of criticism? British supremacy on the seas won the great war more than any other factor. But for it we should now alone be confronting a Kaiser who was lord of all Europe and Asia, infinitely stronger in men and resources than we. What chance would we have? We criticised the British blockade of Germany before we entered the war; after we became an associate in arms we were glad to acquiesce and cooperate in strengthening it.

Now an insidious propaganda, never idle, has fired our imaginations with strange phantoms where before we saw nothing to alarm. We are asked to regard the old traditional British sea supremacy as a special challenge to us which we must with all haste prepare to meet by stepping into Germany's shoes and beginning a race in dreadnoughts and the squandering of fresh billions. Was anything ever more absurd. Could anything more delirious vanquished enemies than the spectacle of the two great English speaking peoples arrayed against one another in armament building—they the champions of peace and a league of nations? It would be denouncement of the war the most shameful to be imagined. It would stultify all the brave words and idealisms drawn for us by our president and furnish an anomaly and a blot on the future of the world.

Germany surrendered to us her arms; shall we now surrender to her our sanity? It would make her again the victor.

Cape County Bar Pays A Fine Tribute To Late B. F. Davis

IN MEMORIAM.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Cape Girardeau County Bar Association:

Your memorial committee on the death of Judge Benjamin F. Davis submits the following resolution:

On May 14, 1918, Judge Benjamin Franklin Davis was drowned by the accidental turning over of a skiff in Ditch No. 2 of the Little River Drainage District in Cape Girardeau county, Missouri. His remains were recovered the following morning and interment was had in the Mausoleum in the Lorimer cemetery in the city of Cape Girardeau, on May 17th.

Judge Davis was born on January 18, 1855, near the town of Milford, in the state of Delaware. He was the fifth of ten children born to Thomas J. and Mary Potter Davis. His birthplace was once owned by one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

At the age of 13 years he was sent to Monson Academy in Massachusetts to prepare for Amherst College as it was the ambition of his father and mother to give each of their children a college education if they cared to take it. Judge Davis was graduated from Amherst in 1878.

Although he afterwards became a champion of our modern and manual training education he was at all times a great lover and defender of the classics. After graduation he taught Latin and mathematics in Wilmington Conference Academy in Dover, Del., for two years. In the meantime, realizing that his father had dealt generously with him in providing him at Amherst, he set about and began the study of law, his chosen profession at night, under the tutelage and instruction of Nathaniel B. Smithers, an eminent jurist and classical student in the state of Delaware. He was very fond of Mr. Smithers and often referred to him and the place of his legal learning—a log cabin office on Dover Green—as his legal Alma Mater.

After having devoted three years to his legal studies he passed the examination then required in the state of Delaware, which included a knowledge of English and the classics, as well as in jurisprudence. He was first admitted to the practice of law in the state of Delaware.

About the time of his admission on to the bar the west was calling insistently upon the east for young men of energy and attainments, and in 1882 Judge Davis responded to the call and came to Missouri. He came equipped with letters of introduction and commendations from distinguished friends in the east to pioneer emigrants to these parts and especially to our earlier emigrants from the state of Delaware. Amongst the first of the men from Delaware that he came to meet in his search for a new location was the Hon. B. B. Cahoon, of Fredericktown, Mo. It was through Mr. Cahoon's influence that Judge Davis came to the Cape and entered the law office of the late Judge Judge David L. Hawkins, Judge of this judicial circuit for 12 years and who afterwards became Assistant Secretary of the Interior under President Cleveland. His association as a

partner with Judge Hawkins continued until the latter was called to Washington.

About that time there was a vacancy, caused by the sickness of the professor in the chair of Latin and Mathematics in the Normal of this city. Judge Davis was invited to fill these chairs temporarily, but after the death of the professor in charge, he was prevailed upon to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the year. He accepted this employment to teach upon the condition that his duties as professor in the Normal should not interfere with his legal work. He had occupied the chairs but a short time when his associate professors and the board of Regents, as well as the corps of students discovered that he was a born teacher and leader of men and earnestly insisted upon his continuing to teach. But his legal duties were growing and he declined further employment as a teacher in the Normal school.

In 1887 Judge Davis was married to Miss Olivia Waples of Dover, Delaware. Of this union two children were born, Thomas J., a son, who died in infancy; and Miss Elizabeth Waples Davis, who, with her mother survive him.

Although Judge Davis was a busy man professionally, he always found time to devote much study to civic improvement, the development and enlarging of our public schools, the purification of politics, the advancement of agriculture and the upbuilding of our community.

He was elected to and served as a member of the School Board of our city and it was during his term of office that the Jefferson school building was constructed. This was the first distinctively ward school in our city. The Lorimer school was remodelled and enlarged during his term of office and the fixed policy was then agreed upon by the board to build other ward schools and to hold the beautiful lot on Pacific street given by Don Louis Lorimer, the founder of the city, for the construction of a high school. It was a source of great satisfaction to him to know that he had lived to see the handsome high school building erected that now adorns the Lorimer lot.

Judge Davis was one of the original promoters and subsequently became one of the first members of the Board of Directors of the Cape Girardeau Building & Loan Association of this city—an association that has contributed to the building of many of the modern and handsome residences in the city of Cape Girardeau.

About the time of the incorporation of the Building & Loan Association, Judge Davis realized the need of other financial institutions in this section of the state and became active in the organization of the First National Bank of this city.

In the re-granting by the city of Cape Girardeau of a franchise to the Cape Girardeau Water Works and Electric Light Plant, Judge Davis served the city with Dr. W. S. Dear-

mont and other citizens in conjunction with a committee of the city in the preparation of the new franchise under which our people are now served.

Judge Davis was opposed to the open saloon when he came to us in 1882 and continuously opposed it in season and out of season at all times. His persistent and consistent opposition to the saloon was known to all men, for he was neither a "trimmer" nor a "dodger". He realized that the saloon could not survive publicity, and therefore advocated public agitation as the surest means of its overthrow and destruction. More than once he publicly boasted of the fact that he had cast one of the two votes for prohibition that was cast in this city. In his uncompromising attitude toward the saloon, he enjoyed the respect and confidence of most of the men engaged in the business he opposed—not the men.

In 1904 he was elected Judge of the Cape Girardeau Court of Common Pleas and continued to serve as Judge of this court until December 31st, 1909—a term of four years, and interesting cases came before him for trial. His patience in hearing these cases, his studious investigation of the law, his painstaking care in deciding them has forever established his reputation as a learned and just judge. His decisions tested by time stand as silent but eloquent monuments of his learning, his integrity and his fearlessness as a jurist.

In politics Judge Davis was a Republican but he always claimed the inherent right to judge for himself the fitness of candidates. In Religion

The First Bit of Snow



he was a staunch Presbyterian and it was a source of great satisfaction to see the influence and accomplishments of the early Presbyterians in the establishment and formation of our representative forms of state and national government. Above all, above parties, above creeds, he was a full-blooded American, proud of his country and its achievements.

By reason of his frugality and simple life, he was enabled to and did give to every merited call, to every merited charity.

He was methodical in whatever he did, thereby avoiding extravagance and waste of time and means. He was modest, kind and considerate of the rights and feeling of others and never gave offense without cause and seldom with it. Through his whole life he was gentle in manner, firm in his conviction, brave and courageous in his purposes and if necessary would stand single-handed and alone in support of his conviction. In his death we feel that the city, county, state and nation have lost a valuable citizen; his widow and daughter a most affectionate, tender and considerate husband and father; our bar one of its most learned, upright, courageous, useful and beloved members.

THEREFORE, Be it Resolved that a copy of these resolutions spread upon the records of this court and that a copy thereof, under the seal of this court be furnished his bereaved widow and that a copy be furnished the press of this county for publication.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Barrett Oliver,
R. H. Whitelaw,
T. D. Hines.

Wheat Now In U. S.

Washington, D. C., December 12.—Commercial stocks of wheat reported in a survey made by the Department of Agriculture as of November 1, 1918, amounted to 274,925,910 bushels, as compared with 195,997,839 bushels reported on hand in a similar survey for October 1. These figures refer to stocks actually reported and do not represent the total commercial stocks of the country, nor do they include stocks on farms. The stocks reported for November were held by 12,538 firms—elevators, warehouses, grain mills and wholesale dealers—held in larger quantities than two and one-half times the stock held by them a year earlier, the actual percentage being 269.4 of the 1917 stock.

The commercial visible supply figures, as published by the Chicago Board of Trade for the nearest date (November 2, 1918) show 122,604,090 bushels of wheat against 14,908,300 a year ago, and the corresponding Bradstreet's figures for '18 show 131,852,000 bushels as against 22,855,000 bushels for 1917. A very relative increase in the commercial stocks of wheat on November 1, this year, as compared with the same date of last year is shown by these figures, as well as by the results of the more extensive survey.

The commercial stocks of other cereals reported for November 1, 1918, according to the Department's statement, were as follows: Corn, 17,123,734 bushels; oats, 79,775,204 bushels; barley, 34,462,597 bushels; rye, 15,123,135 bushels. These stocks represent the following percentages of the corresponding stocks on November 1, 1917: Corn, 272.7 per cent; oats,

18.9 per cent; barley, 129.1 per cent; rye 122 per cent.

The commercial stocks of flour and cornmeal, as reported for the survey, were: Wheat flour, white, 5,384,839 barrels; whole-wheat and graham, 148,916 barrels; rye flour, 303,434 barrels; corn flour, 51,756,846 pounds; corn meal, 69,299,044 pounds; buckwheat flour, 5,129,979 pounds; mixed flour, 23,460,225 pounds. These stocks represent the following percentages of the stocks on hand a year ago: Wheat flour, white, 128.1 per cent; whole wheat and graham flour, 290.4 per cent; rye flour, 176.5 per cent; corn meal, 224.4 per cent; buckwheat flour, 137.1 per cent; mixed flour, 228.4 per cent.

Elevators, warehouses and wholesale dealers reported stocks of beans amounting to 9,219,426 bushels, while wholesale grocers and ware houses reported the following commodities and in the amounts indicated: Rice, 45,936,021 pounds; rolled oats, 79,624,761 pounds; canned salmon, 134,295,221 pounds; canned tomatoes, 171,381,134 pounds; canned corn, 72,135,832 pounds; sugar, 189,011,909 pounds. These stocks represent the following percentages of the corresponding stocks on hand November 1, 1917: Beans—168.7 per cent; rice, 50.8 per cent; rolled oats, 139.8 per cent; canned salmon, 93 per cent; canned tomatoes, 127.4 per cent; canned corn, 108.3 per cent; sugar, 138.8 per cent.

Stocks of condensed and evaporated milks were reported by condenseries, cold storage, warehouses and wholesale groceries, as follows: Condensed milk, 57,017,968 pounds; evaporated milk, 93,944,475 pounds. The hold-

ings of condensed milk reported for November 1, 1918, represented 115.8 per cent of the stocks held by the same firms a year earlier, while the holdings of evaporated milk represented 72.9 per cent of the November 1917, stock.

CHANGING HEADS OF THE MOR-MON CHURCH.

The death of the head of the Mormon church, Joseph F. Smith, serves to remind people living afar from the seat of that social-religious body that America "still has solidly established within its borders a powerful hierarchical organization cast on Biblical and oriental lines." Thus the Boston Transcript characterizes the church which in the past has come into conflict with legal authorities on account of some fundamental tenets of its creed. The late head of the church was an early advocate of polygamy, and after 1890 preferred to suffer prosecution rather, as he said, than abandon his children and their mothers. The Transcript says: "the last of the men in power in the Mormon church who outlived the exodus to Utah." "Nephew of the original Joseph Smith, revered by the Mormons as a prophet, he drove an ox-team on the long trip from the banks of the Mississippi to the Salt Lake Valley in 1846-47." He was brought up on the principles and belief of the Saints, and was like his uncle, revered as "of the blood of the prophet" like every other Mormon, he had to make good his claim to advancement in his church or the community by humble and patient service through a long process of slow promotion. His life follows:

"Joseph Fielding Smith was born in 1838 in Carthage, Ill., where his father, Hyrum Smith, and his uncle, the original Prophet Joseph, were shot to death by a mob which stormed the jail where the two were confined shortly after they began to preach plurality of wives. Although he was an avowed polygamist for many years, the late President of the Mormon church changed his views latterly, and left a sick bed last October to attend the semiannual conference held in the Temple at Salt Lake City and denounced the members of the church who had taken more than one wife recently and kept the marriage secret.

He had been married 6 times and is survived by five wives, 43 children and 91 grandchildren.

"After the rioting at Carthage his mother fled with her little son and the other Mormons to Nauvoo, Ill., where she remained until Joseph was 8 years old, when they were driven forth again, and the young boy drove an ox-team across the plains to Utah, where he became a herd boy, and then a missionary in 1852, when the late Brigham Young established his headquarters at Salt Lake City. Joseph Fielding Smith was only 15 years old when he was sent to Hawaii as a missionary for the Mormon church. Later he entered the army raised by President Young to intercept United States troops which were about to invade Utah and did active service as a scout until the so-called 'Mormon war' was ended.

"In 1890 when the Supreme Court of the United States had upheld the Edmunds-Tucker act making polygamy unlawful he upheld the decision in public, but said that in his own case, altho contrary to the law, he preferred the consequences rather than abandon his children and wives.